Solid Signal's

WHITE PAPER

Enjoy satellite service while in your RV!

SOLID SIGNAL

ENJOY TV WHILE TRAVELING

It's easy and fun to bring your satellite service with you!

courtesy of morrowcountyliving.com

Whether it's a big, loud tailgate party or a quiet evening spent watching TV while it's rainy out, there's nothing like bringing your home entertainment experience withyou. It's easy if you put up an antenna, but an antenna isn't going to take you all the way, right? You want DVR service, recorded programs, pay-per-view, and all those sports channels!

Luckily you have options. Whether it's a simple tripod that keeps your budget intact, a full-fledged system that keeps your family entertained while you're driving, or something in between, we have the solutions you need to get satellite TV hooked up and rolling!

Let's start with a little chart. Follow the arrows, then click to go to the solution that's best for you!

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CHOOSING THE RIGHT SOLUTION

Looking for the best way to watch satellite TV while away from home? Check this out!

I like to have tailgate parties.

I don't watch a lot of TV.

I'M LOOKING FOR AN INEXPENSIVE SOLUTION

I only use it a few times a year.

I like to watch TV in bed.

I'm comfortable aiming a dish.

I WANT A LOW-BUDGET PERMANENT SOLUTION

When I park,I stay in one place for a while.

TV is important to me.

I'm not very technical.

I WANT THE BEST, EASIEST TO USE OPTION

I don't want a lot of fuss when I watch TV.

You want a portable dish.

I can aim the dish myself.

Click for Tripods

Solid Signal RV Sat Kit

Click for Auto-aiming all-in-ones

I don't want to aim the dish.

Winegard Anser

You want a dish mounted to the RV.

Winegard RM-DM46

Click for manually aimed dishes

I know I'll have to aim the dish myself.

No one watches TV while I'm driving.

Click for dishes that work while you're parked

Winegard SK-SWM

You want an auto aiming dish mounted to the RV.

Click for dishes that work even when you're moving

KVH Tracvision A7

Nothing but the best for me!

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CHOOSING THE RIGHT PROVIDER

In the US, you have two choices for satellite TV. If you already have satellite service at home with one provider or the other, the decision is easy. Both DISH and DIRECTV let you use receivers that you supply from home, but most DISH setups require a specific receiver that you may not have at home.. If you haven't made up your mind,here's a list of plusses and minuses that might help.

DIRECTV

- **Use any receiver, even a DVR or Genie**
- **Watch NFL Sunday Ticket and other DIRECTV-specific sports programs**
- **Pause live TV (with DVR)**
- **Auto-aiming HD dish is more expensive**
- **Easy to add more receivers with a SWM-enabled dish**

dish

- **Most installations only work with a particular receiver**
- **Watch Pac-12 network**
- **Cannot use the Hopper DVR or Joey**
- **Wide variety of auto aiming HD dishes**
- **Most installations won't let you use multiple receivers**

Really, the choice is up to you. If you are happy with the provider you have at home there is no reason to start up a separate account just for RV'ing. On the other hand, complicated tailgate setups are usually better with DIRECTV, while it's easiest to get HDTV on a single receiver with DISH. Remember, though, it's never ok to borrow a receiver from someone else. Also, both DIRECTV and DISH say it's ok to use their service on your RV as long as you aren't using it at home at the same time.

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DISHES ON TRIPODS

Why choose a dish on a tripod?

If you are on a budget and don't mind doing the aiming yourself, you should consider a dish on a tripod. All of these kits come with everything you'll need, including a long cable and a short flat cable that can be used to run through a window. You'll want a post level, which you can get at any hardware store. The trick with a dish on a tripod is to make sure it's as level as possible.

If you only want SD programming, look no further than our basic Sat Kit. It's easy to aim and inexpensive. If you want HD, you'll need a dish specific to your provider, and DIRECTV gives you a choice of the regular or SWM dish. You will want to get a SWM dish if the dish you use at home uses SWM technology. *Here's how you can find out if you have SWM technology at home.*

These dishes can be disassembled so that they take up very little space in your RV when you're done with them, but remember to treat them delicately.

RV Sat Kit for DISH HD

RV Basic Sat Kit

RV Sat Kit for DIRECTV HD

RV Sat Kit for DIRECTV SWM

DON'T FORGET THE METER!

If you are aiming a basic satellite dish, you can get away with a simple signal finder, but if you are aiming an HD dish, you have two choices. Either you can use the built-in meter on the receiver (which can take up to 30 seconds to update) or, for really professional results, you can use this SatLookLite signal meter which is pre-loaded with settings for DISH and DIRECTV! *Click here for a tutorial showing how to use the SatLookLite to aim your dish!*

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AUTO-AIMING ALL-IN-ONE DISHES

Why choose an auto-aiming all-in-one dish?

If you're technically minded and practice enough, you'll get good at aiming a satellite dish in under ten minutes. Not everyone can do it, though, and not everyone wants to. That's why there are auto-aiming dishes. These dishes are simple: Put them on a level surface and connect them up, and they do the rest. There are several choices at different price levels. Choose the one that makes sense for you.

Winegard GM-1518 Carryout

The *Winegard GM-1518 i*s the only auto-aimer that will support multiple receivers at the same time. That can be an important consideration for you. It works on DIRECTV and DISH satellites, but only DISH will give you HD with this unit.

The *Winegard Carryout Anser* and its twin the *Pathway X2* support only one receiver at a time but at a lower price. The Pathway X2 will work on DISH's Eastern Arc or Western Arc. Both dishes will give you HD from DISH but neither will give you HD from DIRECTV.

Winegard Carryout Anser

DISH's *Tailgater* will give you HD service from a DISH receiver but won't work with DIRECTV. It's a little bigger than the Winegard products but it's easier to place.

All of these dishes should get a good signal by themselves within just a few minutes after being connected to the receivers. All are powered by the receivers themselves.

A note about receivers:

Any DIRECTV receiver except *Genie* and *H25* will work with the Winegard products, but in order to use any of these with a DISH account you must use the ViP211K or *ViP211Z HD* receiver. That means that only DIRECTV will let you hook up a DVR with this dish.

DISH's receiver will sense the dish type when you do a "Check Switch." For DIRECTV use, these should be set up as dish type 01, 18" Round, and the multiswitch type should be "multiswitch."

DISH 211z HD Receiver

DISH Tailgater

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MANUAL RV-MOUNTED DISHES

Mount that dish straight to the RV.

You can save yourself a bit of time by mounting a dish straight to the RV. Basic installs can be very inexpensive. The easiest and least expensive option is to mount a round dish to the side of the RV. Any round dish like the DIRECTV 46DTVE2 will work. In general DISH receivers can use the round dish for standard-definition programming even if it's a DIRECTV dish. (The round dish is the only one that can be shared between the two providers.)

If you mount a "plain-old" dish to the RV, you might choose to take off the reflector and LNB (the "dishy" part and the part that sticks out in front of it) when you travel. You'll have to gauge the wind load and how well you've secured it. If you've mounted to the side of the RV you may be able to simply take off the LNB arm and turn the dish sideways to the wind. This will take some trial and error, because not every situation is the same.

DIRECTV 46DTVDE2

Aiming a standard-definition dish is fairly easy because you only need to find a single satellite.

If you're looking for something a bit more permanent, check out the RM-DM46 from Winegard. It's a standard definition dish with a unique crank system that lets it fold flat. The dish mounts on the roof of the RV and can be cranked and aimed from inside the RV. This makes it easier to aim and it means you're not climbing up there all the time. It's recommended for someone who uses the system every night but doesn't want to spend a lot of money.

You can mount an HD dish to your RV as well but you should take off the reflector and LNB before you move. The HD dish is about twice the size of the standard definition dish and it's very likely that it would be damaged by the wind while you're driving.

Winegard RM-DM46 (folded position)

Winegard RM-DM46

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AUTO-AIMING RV-MOUNTED DISHES

When only the best will do.

The ultimate in RV luxury is an auto-aiming dish. Sit back and relax and let the dish do the work! It's true that these solutions are expensive but when looked at as part of an entire RV purchase they really don't add more than 1-2% to the overall cost and with a dish that aims itself, you're free to relax and enjoy! Auto-aiming dishes can pull in HD programming and will support almost any receiver or DVR.

When looking for an auto-aiming dish, there are several choices but the leaders are the Winegard Trav'ler series and KVH's Tracvision line. The big difference here is the the Winegard products are designed to be used while parked, while KVH's unique auto tracking system will let someone in the RV (not you, you're driving) watch live TV while you're in motion!

Winegard SK-1000

Winegard's Trav'ler SK-1000 is designed for DISH customers while the SK-SWM is designed for DIRECTV customers. Both have a full-size HD dish mounted on a special gimbal that lets them fold down when not in use, then open up and automatically aim themselves. Both dishes can be used with all the latest technology including the Hopper and Genie systems. If you combine them with an LTE hotspot from your wireless carrier, you won't miss anything, not even on-demand!

Winegard SK-SWM

KVH is the premier name in mobile satellite dishes, and there's a good reason: no one else makes it so easy to watch TV while in a moving vehicle, and no one else gives such a wide variety of equipment choices. Full-sized RVs with plenty of room on the roof can use the domed HD7, while vehicles as small as a minivan can use the low-profile A7 for entertainment on the go.

When it comes to KVH products, professional installation is definitely recommended and there are a lot of products to choose from, so it's best to call for a personalized recommendation.

KVH Tracvision A7

KVH Tracvision HD7

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SolidSignal.com is your source for DIRECTV equipment, supplies, and support. We have over 10 years' experience in installing and supporting satellite equipment. Our technical staff is ready to answer all your questions!

visit SOLIDSIGNAL.COM for the best selection of equipment and supplies for the high-end installer or do-it-yourselfer!

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